

It has been collected twice in Costa Rica, at 700 and 1,165 m elevation on the Pacific side of the isthmus. Perhaps further collections will provide an insight into its ecological requirements. The locality of San Vito suggests that this species may be found in the nearby Chiriquí Mountains of Panama.

Because no single character delimits this well-marked species, the specific epithet does not relate to the collector, collection locality, or morphological features.

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HERBERTIA (IRIDACEAE) REINSTATED AS A VALID GENERIC NAME

The genus *Herbertia* was described in 1827 by Robert Sweet for a New World genus of Iridaceae. As currently circumscribed (Goldblatt, 1975), the genus is a small one of approximately six species centered in temperate South America from Uruguay to Chile with a subspecies of a South American taxon occurring in the southern United States.

The existence of the similar name *Herbertus* Gray (also used in the form *Herberta*) published in 1821, prompted several authors including myself to regard *Herbertia* as a later homonym and therefore to reject it. Following Kuntze (1898) who first suggested that *Herbertia* be considered a homonym, both Foster (1945) and Ravenna (1968) among others, accepted *Alophia* Herb. (dating from 1840) as the valid name for the genus. Subsequently I discovered (Goldblatt, 1975) that the type species of *Alophia* had been misinterpreted and was in fact a species of what was then known as *Eustylis*. I therefore proposed another available synonym of *Herbertia*, namely *Trifurcia* Herb., for the genus and provided new combinations in *Trifurcia* for both the United States subspecies and for the South American representatives of *Herbertia*.

Recently it has been suggested both in print (Florschütz & Grolle 1975) and to me personally that *Herbertia* should not have been rejected and that I should carefully consider Article 75 of the *Botanical Code of Nomenclature*. This article deals with names of similar but not identical spelling, and recommends rejection only in cases of likely confusion. The article recommends the rejection of examples such as *Columella* and *Columellia* and *Eschweilera* and *Eschweileria* as being too similar and thus likely to cause confusion. Other examples are *Peltophorum* and *Peltophorus*, *Iria* and *Iris*, neither of which are to be considered homonyms and therefore both forms of these words are available for usage for different genera.

Herbertia seems to fall into the latter category, being sufficiently different in orthography to avoid any possibility of confusion. Florschütz & Grolle (1975) support this view, as do several colleagues with whom I have discussed the

question. Therefore, I propose reinstatement of *Herbertia* and the synonymizing of *Trifurcia*. This treatment involves some new combinations as follows:

1. ***Herbertia lahue*** (Molina) Goldbl., comb. nov. Basionym: *Ferraria lahue*, Molina, Sagg. Stor. Nat. Chile, ed. 2: 110. 1810.

The subspecies of this taxon are to be cited as follows:

- 1a. ***H. lahue*** subsp. ***amoena*** (Griseb.) Goldbl., comb. nov. Basionym: *Herbertia amoena* Griseb., Abh. Königl. Ges. Wiss. Göttingen 24: 325. 1879.
- 1b. ***H. lahue*** subsp. ***caerulea*** (Herb.) Goldbl., comb. nov. Basionym: *Trifurcia caerulea* Herb., Bot. Mag. 1840: tab. 3779. 1840.
2. ***Herbertia tigridioides*** (Hick.) Goldbl., comb. nov. Basionym: *Alophia tigridioides* Hick., Darwiniana 1: 116. 1924.

The four remaining species were either originally placed in *Herbertia*, or have in the past been transferred to the genus. These are: *H. pulchella* Sweet, *H. amatorum* C. H. Wright, *H. hauthallii* (O. Kuntze) K. Schum, *H. brasiliensis* Baker.

LITERATURE CITED

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